IS THAT SO?
I'M GUESSING HE WANTED TO RECREATE THE ISA SQUADS FROM THE LS CAMPAIGN AS A SIGN OF HIS OWN GREATNESS...
THE NORTH AMERICAN FORCES' COMMANDER KENNETH ...
SO...
ゴゥン ゴゥン

#07: HIDE AND SEEK

HE IS VERY OSTENTATIOUS, ISN'T HE.
AND THEN ROPE IN BOTH THE ATX AND SRX TEAMS...
SO HE'LL HAVE THE SPACE NOAH CLASS SHIROGANE TAKE A FRONT-LINE ROLE...
NOW HE'S LEFT WITH HIS RIVALRY WITH THE HIGHLY COMMENDED COMMANDER LAKER...
HE TOOK THE MERIT OF THE DEED WITH HIM...
THAT'S WHAT I THINK. SINCE REAR ADMIRAL NORMAN DIED IN THE LS CAMPAIGN ..

HUH, WHERE IS THE CAPTAIN?
SORRY, I WASN'T LISTENING ...
EH?
WHAT DO YOU THINK, LIEUTENANT?
AND SOMEHOW HE'LL BLAME IT ON COMMANDER LAKER...
ALTHOUGH, IN THE END HE KEPT GOING IN CIRCLES AND THE FORCES ENDED UP GATHERED ON THE HAGANE AGAIN.
SO IF IT'S EASY TO UNDERSTAND THEN ALL THE BETTER ...
WELL IT'S A POLITICAL PERFOR-MANCE...

※ISA=Integrated Synchronizing Attack

HE IS IN HIS QUARTERS. HE NEEDED TO SPEAK WITH MAJOR KAI.
HE DID?
HE TOLD YOU HIMSELF JUST A LITTLE WHILE AGO ...
I'LL SKIP THE FINER DETAILS...
A DC REMNANT PILOT...
HE GOT CAUGHT IN THE EXPLOSION WHEN HIS AM GOT SHOT DOWN. HIS EJECTOR SYSTEM DIDN'T TRIGGER.
THE PRISONER?
FROM THE LAST BATTLE?
WHY ARE YOU ASKING ME?
OR IS THERE A TRICK TO IT?
AND HE STILL MADE IT OUT ALIVE?
THAT'S ONE HELL OF A LUCKY GUY...
HIS BEACON DIDN'T WORK EITHER SO THEY NEVER CAME TO PICK HIM UP...
FROM LOOKING AT HIS FLIGHT SUIT AND THE REMAINS OF HIS CRAFT...
HE RECEIVED SUCH A TRAUMA WHEN HIS COCKPIT BLOCK WAS CRUSHED THAT NORMALLY HIS INNARDS SHOULD HAVE BEEN TORN TO SHREDS...
WHAT SAVED HIM WAS DEFINITELY NOT LUCK.
FROM MY ANALYSIS ...
YES.
DOCTOR ...

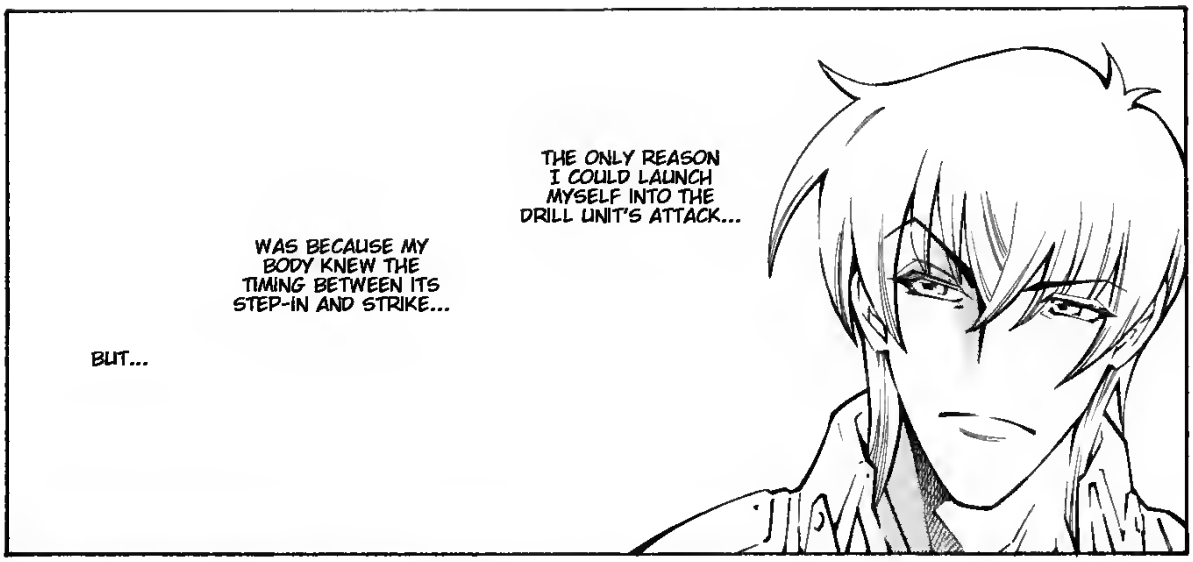
SOME SLIGHT BLUNT TRAUMA, LACERATIONS OVER HIS WHOLE BODY AND 1ST DEGREE BURNS OVER 3%...
IN ANY CASE, NOTHING THAT IS A THREAT TO HIS LIFE.
SO HE SURVIVED JUST BECAUSE HE'S TOUGH?
HOW INJURED IS HE?
THOUGH SINCE HE WAS LODGED IN SO HARD HE COULDN'T BREATH ANY OF THE TOXIC SMOKE FROM THE EXPLOSION, I GUESS YOU COULD CALL IT LUCK...
BOTH HIS BONE DENCITY AND THE QUALITY OF HIS MUSCLE FIBERS ARE ABOVE THAT OF A NORMAL PERSON...
AND TRACES OF GROWTH HORMONES WERE FOUND IN HIS BLOOD.
.....
HAVE YOU FOUND ANYTHING ELSE?
IT SEEMS ...
THIS PRISONER ...
IS ONE OF THE SURVIVORS OF "THE SCHOOL" LATOONI TOLD US ABOUT.
IS THAT TRUE?
THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE HUCKEBEIN MK. III HAS BEEN PUT COMPLETELY ON HOLD!?
HAGANE OPERATIONS ROOM

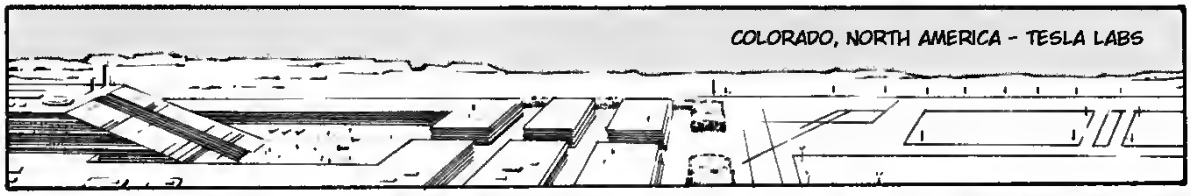
MAO INDUSTRIES HEADQUARTERS WORKSHOP - LUNAR SURFACE
YEAH ...
BY THE TOP BRASS IN THE MILITARY.
RIGHT. COULD YOU GIVE ME YOUR OPINION RYOTO...
BUT ON TO THE REASON YOU CALLED ...
WHAT DO YOU MAKE OF THE UNIT THE DC REMNANT USED IN THE LAST BATTLE.
AND IT DIDN'T AFFECT THE FITTING OF THE AM PARTS ...
WELL BECAUSE OF THAT I CAN FOCUS ON THE FINE TUNING THE EX...
THAT IS THE R-SCHNEIDE.
SAME AS YOU, RYUSEI.
THE CODENAME FOR THE PLANNED MP MODEL FITTED WITH A TESLA DRIVE AND TWIN BEAM CANNONS, IS THE R-SCHNEIDE.
THE ARBLADE THAT RYUSEI IS USING NOW IS ACTUALLY JUST A TEST UNIT.
WHAT'S THE R-SCHNEIDE?
I THOUGHT SO...
THE THREE EXISTING ARBLADE UNITS, INCLUDING MINE, ARE ALL ACCOUNTED FOR...
HM... WAIT?
THAT MEANS ...

BESIDES, THE R-SCHNEIDE'S EXTRA PARTS...
THERE ARE NO TRACES THAT ANY INFORMATION HAS LEAKED FROM MAO INDUSTRIES ...
WHAT ABOUT THE DATA OR R-SCHNEIDE PARTS ON YOUR END?
SO YOU'RE SAYING SOMETHING THAT SHOULDN'T EXIST HAS APPEARED?
THERE ISN'T ANY DATA, MUCH LESS MACHINERY, TO STEAL...
DR. OOMIYA IS STILL DRAWING UP THE PLANS FOR THEM...
OH, AND THEY SAID THERE WAS A MESSAGE FOR ME...?
SOUNDS LIKE YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT SOMETHING INTERESTING!
OH, LT. IRM! YOU HAVE A GUEST WAITING AT MONITOR 3!
Pi
AND THEN YOU HAVE THE NERVE TO KEEP HIM WAITING?
INSTITUTE OF TESLA REICH
YOU COME TO YOUR PARENT BEGGING FOR SOMETHING...
SINCE YOU CALLED I'M GUESSING YOU'VE SEEN THE DATA I SENT?
SINCE THE CONFERENCE CHANNEL IS OPEN I'LL PATCH EVERYONE IN...
I CAME TO YOU WITH A WORK RELATED MATTER, DR. KAZAHARA.
SINCE YOU GAVE ME A JET POWERED TRICYCLE...
I DON'T REMEMBER EVER BEING DUMB ENOUGH TO BEG YOU FOR SOMETHING...

IF YOU HAD MADE THAT THING...
I KNOW THAT!
WELL IT'S NOT ONE OF MINE!
PON!
POM!
WHAT CAN YOU TELL ME ABOUT THE SPECIAL UNIT WITH THE DRILLS?
WHAT ARE YOU GETTING AT, LT. IRM?
DRILLS ? OH, THIS DATA HERE
THIS TIME I'M WILLING TO AGREE WITH YOU, MY SON.
HMPH.
I'M SURE YOU WOULD HAVE CALLED ME TO BRAG ABOUT IT.
TGC JOINTS ...
THE INERTIAL DAMPER SYSTEM IN THE GRUNGUST SERIES...
THEN THE DRILL UNIT WAS BUILT WITH GRUNGUST KNOW-HOW?
THE RESPONSE I GOT FROM IT WHEN WE GRAPPLED...
IT WAS DEFINITELY FROM A UNIT WITH TGC JOINTS...

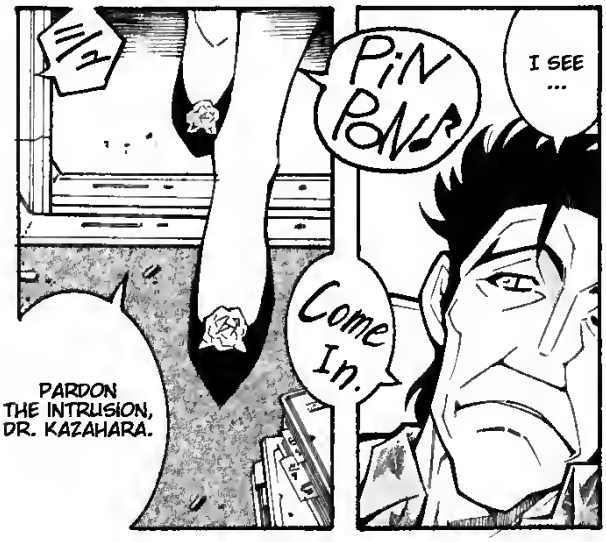
EH!? THE TYPE-3'S GOT DRILLS!?
AH! THE GRUNGUST TYPE-3!!
THAT'S WHAT SURPRISES YOU, RYUSEI?
A SPECIAL UNIT WITH DRILL BOOSTERS ON ITS BACK...
THE DATA FILES, AT LEAST...
I'M SURE YOU'VE SEEN A MACHINE WITH A SIMILAR LAYOUT BEFORE...
SERIOUSLY BULLET...
YOU'RE RIGHT, THE DRILL BOOSTERS ARE SIMILAR TO THE TYPE-3...
AND WITH THAT SELF-REGENERATION ABILITY AND THAT ARMOR...
IT ALSO USES EVEN MORE ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY...
HOW'S IT GOING WITH THE TYPE-3, DAD?
UNIT 1 IS FINALLY COMPLETED...
KUSUHA IS TESTING THE T-LINK SYSTEM RIGHT NOW...
IT'LL STILL BE A WHILE BEFORE ROLL OUT...
SO...
THE DRILL UNIT AS ANOTHER MACHINE THAT SHOULDN'T EXIST YET...
BUT...
OUR FEARLESS LEADER HERE...
HE'S MORE INTERESTED IN WHAT'S INSIDE OF IT, ISN'T HE?
HM?


THE ONLY REASON I COULD LAUNCH MYSELF INTO THE DRILL UNIT'S ATTACK...
WAS BECAUSE MY BODY KNEW THE TIMING BETWEEN ITS STEP-IN AND STRIKE...
BUT...


COLORADO, NORTH AMERICA - TESLA LABS

BUT HOW GOES THE WORK ON THE "ZANKANTOU", MASTER?
THE TYPE-3 ITSELF IS ONE THING...

SIGH...


PARDON THE INTRUSION, DR. KAZAHARA.
PiN PON
Come In.
I SEE ...

IT USES MORE ENERGY THAN EXPECTED ...
BUT IT WILL STILL TAKE MORE TIME...
THE FASTENING OF THE BLADE WENT SMOOTHLY ...

NOTHING WOULD MAKE ME HAPPIER THAN TO HAVE YOU STAY HERE FOR AS LONG AS YOU LIKE!
PLEASE DON'T BE SO FORMAL!
I CAME TO PROPERLY GREET YOU AND THANK YOU FOR ALLOWING US TO IMPOSE ON YOUR FACILITY.
YES, THANK YOU VERY MUCH.
HOW DO YOU FIND THE ROOMS? ARE THEY TO YOUR LIKING?
WITHIN OUR LINE OF WORK THERE IS ALWAYS SO MUCH MATERIAL YOU CANNOT TURN INTO DATA.
I'M SORRY FOR USING SO MUCH OF YOUR SPACE.
THIS IS MASTER RISHU TOUGOU, MOTION TECHNOLOGY ADVISOR HERE AT TESLA LABS.
DR. ANZAI ...
※LTR= Lost Technology Research
SHE IS THE HEAD OF THE SPECIAL ARCHAEOLOGY BRANCH AT LTR AND A BRILLIANT WOMAN.
THIS IS DR. ERI ANZAI.
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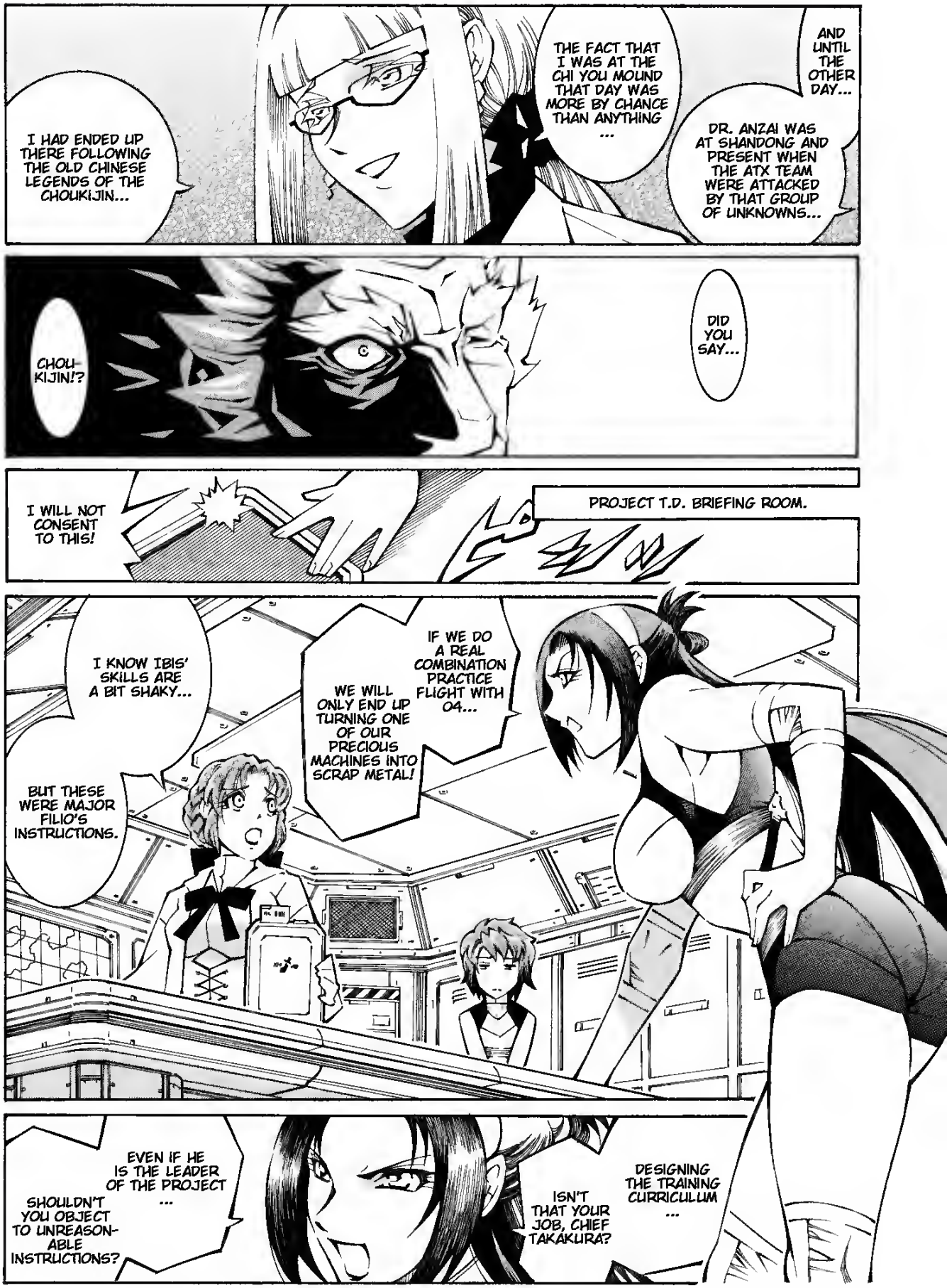
JONATHAN, ARE YOU GOING TO INTRODUCE ME TO THIS YOUNG LADY?


I HAD ENDED UP THERE FOLLOWING THE OLD CHINESE LEGENDS OF THE CHOUKIJIN...
THE FACT THAT I WAS AT THE CHI YOU MOUND THAT DAY WAS MORE BY CHANCE THAN ANYTHING ...
AND UNTIL THE OTHER DAY...
DR. ANZAI WAS AT SHANDONG AND PRESENT WHEN THE ATX TEAM WERE ATTACKED BY THAT GROUP OF UNKNOWNS...
CHOU-KIJIN!?
DID YOU SAY...
I WILL NOT CONSENT TO THIS!
PROJECT T.D. BRIEFING ROOM.
I KNOW IBIS' SKILLS ARE A BIT SHAKY...
BUT THESE WERE MAJOR FILIO'S INSTRUCTIONS.
WE WILL ONLY END UP TURNING ONE OF OUR PRECIOUS MACHINES INTO SCRAP METAL!
IF WE DO A REAL COMBINATION PRACTICE FLIGHT WITH 04...
SHOULDN'T YOU OBJECT TO UNREASON-ABLE INSTRUCTIONS?
EVEN IF HE IS THE LEADER OF THE PROJECT ...
ISN'T THAT YOUR JOB, CHIEF TAKAKURA?
DESIGNING THE TRAINING CURRICULUM ...

VERY DIFFERENT FROM WHEN YOU WERE LITTLE AND USED TO FOLLOW ME AROUND WANTING MY ATTENTION.
HOW OBSTINATE YOU ARE, MY SISTER ...
I'M THE ONE FLYING.
I HAVE NO INTENTION OF RISKING MY LIFE FOR SOMETHING DOOMED TO FAILURE.
CAN'T YOU TRUST ME AND AT LEAST GIVE IT A TRY?
PLEASE SLEIGH.
MAJOR FILIO.
WHAT'S GOING ON?
ばた
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ばた
AH, CHIEF.
TEN MINUTES AGO ONE OF OUR OBSERVATION HELICOPTERS CAUGHT A MAYDAY.
WHAT'S HAPPENING?
TESLA LABS FLIGHT CONTROL ROOM.

WE GOT IN CONTACT WITH THE SURROUNDING AIRPORTS BUT AS EXPECTED WE'RE THE CLOSEST TO THEM.
A SAN JOSE 103 CIVILIAN AIR CRUISER.
A SIGHT-SEEING CRAFT.
CAN WE GET ANY-THING IN THE AIR RIGHT NOW?
THEY TRIED TO HAIL IT BUT LOST CONTACT.
WHAT TYPE WAS IT?
EXCUSE ME....
SENDING A LADYBIRD OR BLACKBIRD ON A SCOUTING MISSION IS A BIT OVER THE TOP...
THERE ARE SOME MUSTANGS AND LIGTHINGS AVAILABLE... PRIVATE PROPERTY OF COURSE...
THE CHOPPER NEEDS TO RETURN FOR FUEL...
OTHER THAN THAT...
WE HAVE THAT ONE RIGHT NOW ...
HM, THAT'S RIGHT...
IT'S PREPPED FOR DRONE TRAINING SO IT CAN TAKE OFF IMMEDIATELY.
WHAT ABOUT THE GRUNGUST TYPE-2?
A-AND ...
I'M READY TOO!
NO YOUR TEST UNITS SHOULDN'T REALLY...
THE CALION SHOULD BE ON STAND-BY!
DON'T WORRY, THE UNITS ARE PERFECTLY READY FOR A REAL MISSION!
BESIDES, THEY WILL ONLY ACT AS THE TYPE-2'S BACKUP.
FILIO...

YES SIR.
THERE'S SURE TO BE MORE SEARCH PARTIES COMING AND SUNSET IS STILL FAR OFF.
KUSUHA, TAKE IT EASY OUT THERE.
WELL IF YOU ARE SURE...
I SEE.
THE TESLA DRIVE'S V-TOL ABILITY MIGHT COME IN HANDY DURING A RESCUE!
I'M SURE MY DEAR LITTLE SISTER WILL DO HER BEST.
IN TIMES LIKE THESE...
THREE?
CHIEF TAKAKURA, COULD YOU BRIEF THE THREE ON THE DETAILS?
I WILL DRAW UP THE FLIGHT PLAN...
GOOOLY

WE ARE CURRENTLY AT THE EAST END OF THE KAIBAB PLATEAU.
WE ARE HEADING TOWARDS PARIA.
GRUNGUST TYPE-2 TO CONTROL.
IT'S NOT EVEN BY THE RIVER...
HUH, MIST? AT A TIME LIKE THIS...?
LT. KUSUHA, I THINK WE SHOULD CHANGE COURSE.
A TEAM FROM PAGE SHOULD BE TAKING CARE OF THE LAKE POWELL AREA...
IBIS?
11 O'CLOCK, IN THE HILL'S SHADOW...
I'LL MARK IT OUT.
THERE'S MIST... IT'S BLOCKING OUR VIEW OF THE GROUND...
CONFIRMED.
IF THAT IS A SNOW DRIFT THERE'S A CHANCE THE AIR CURRENTS AROUND IT COULD BE ROUGH.
DON'T BE THROWN OFF BALANCE, 04!
I'M IMPRESSED YOU COULD SPOT THAT AT THIS DISTANCE, IBIS!
OK WITH YOU, SLEIGH?
LET'S CHECK IT OUT JUST TO BE SAFE.
I-I KNOW!

SHUDDER
?
?
WHAT ...?
!?

THERE THEY ARE! RED LIGHTS DIRECTLY BELLOW US!
あ
-DAY... MAYDAY...
I DON'T REMEMBER THERE BEING RUINS OUT HERE...
STONE HENGE?
REQUES-TING ASSIST-ANCE!
ALL 13 CREW AND PASSEN-GERS ACCOUNTED FOR!
TWO WITH MINOR WOUNDS! NO DEATHS!
THIS IS SAN JOSE 103!
AVIO....S... PLEA... AREA...!
LET'S JUST DROP OFF A PACK OF EMERGENCY SUPPLIES AND...
YES, BUT BEFORE THAT...
DON'T GET FULL OF YOURSELF NEWBIE! LEAVE THE REST TO THE PROFES-SIONALS.
OUR JOB IS JUST TO MARK OUT THE CRASH SITE. ISN'T THAT RIGHT, LT. KUSUHA?
GREAT, WE CAN LAND CLOSE BY!
SHUDDER

ARE YOU STUPID!? THE TESLA DRIVES ARE BEING INTERFERED WITH!
THERE'S A GRAVITATIONAL ANOMALY HERE!
EH?
04, KUSUHA, CLIMB HIGHER!
?
WE CAN'T!
WE...
DO YOU WANT TO CAUSE ANOTHER CRASH!?
WE HAVE TO PULL OUT!
GH! BUT..!
THERE'S "SOMETHING" WITHIN THE MIST!
THE PEOPLE IN THE PLANE CAN'T ESCAPE!
!?

ME AND THE TYPE-2 ...
WILL CARRY THEM ON FOOT!

R-ROGER! WE'VE GATHERED EVERYONE IN THE FORWARD CABIN AND THE BULKHEAD IS HOLDING! GO AHEAD!
HAVE ALL THE PASSANGERS GATHER TO-WARDS THE COCKPIT!
SAN JOSE 103! I AM GOING TO SPLIT THE CRAFT AND CARRY THE FORWARD PART WITH ME!
ヒュー
ヒュー
!

WH-!
WHAT!?
!?
SONIC!
CUTTER!
GET OUT OF THERE!
NOW, GONG 2!

EH!?
W-WELL I CAN DO THAT TOO!
ボウ
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THERE HAS TO BE SOMETHING WE CAN DO...
THEY'VE GOT US SURROUNDED...
THEY'RE IN THE SKY TOO!?
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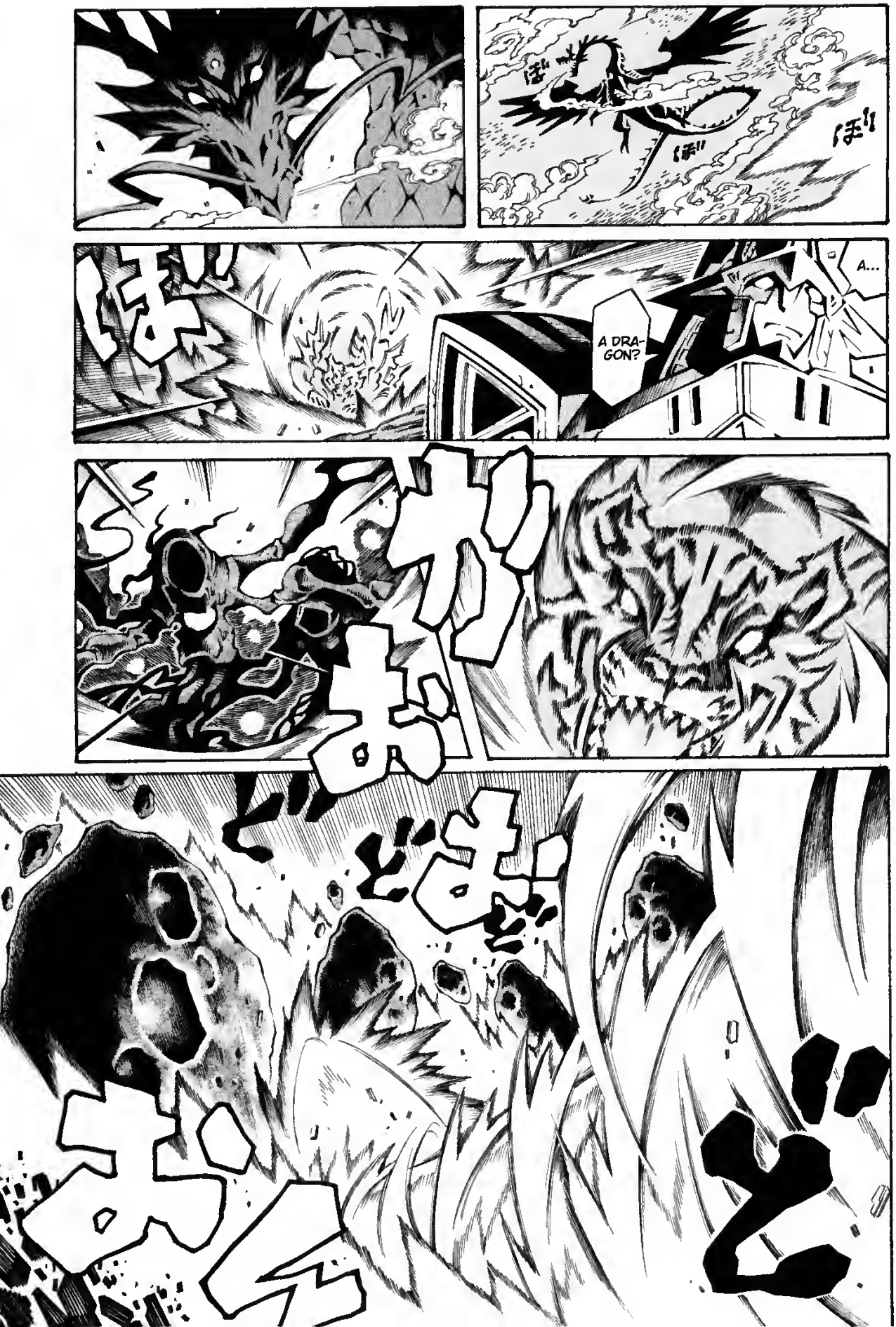
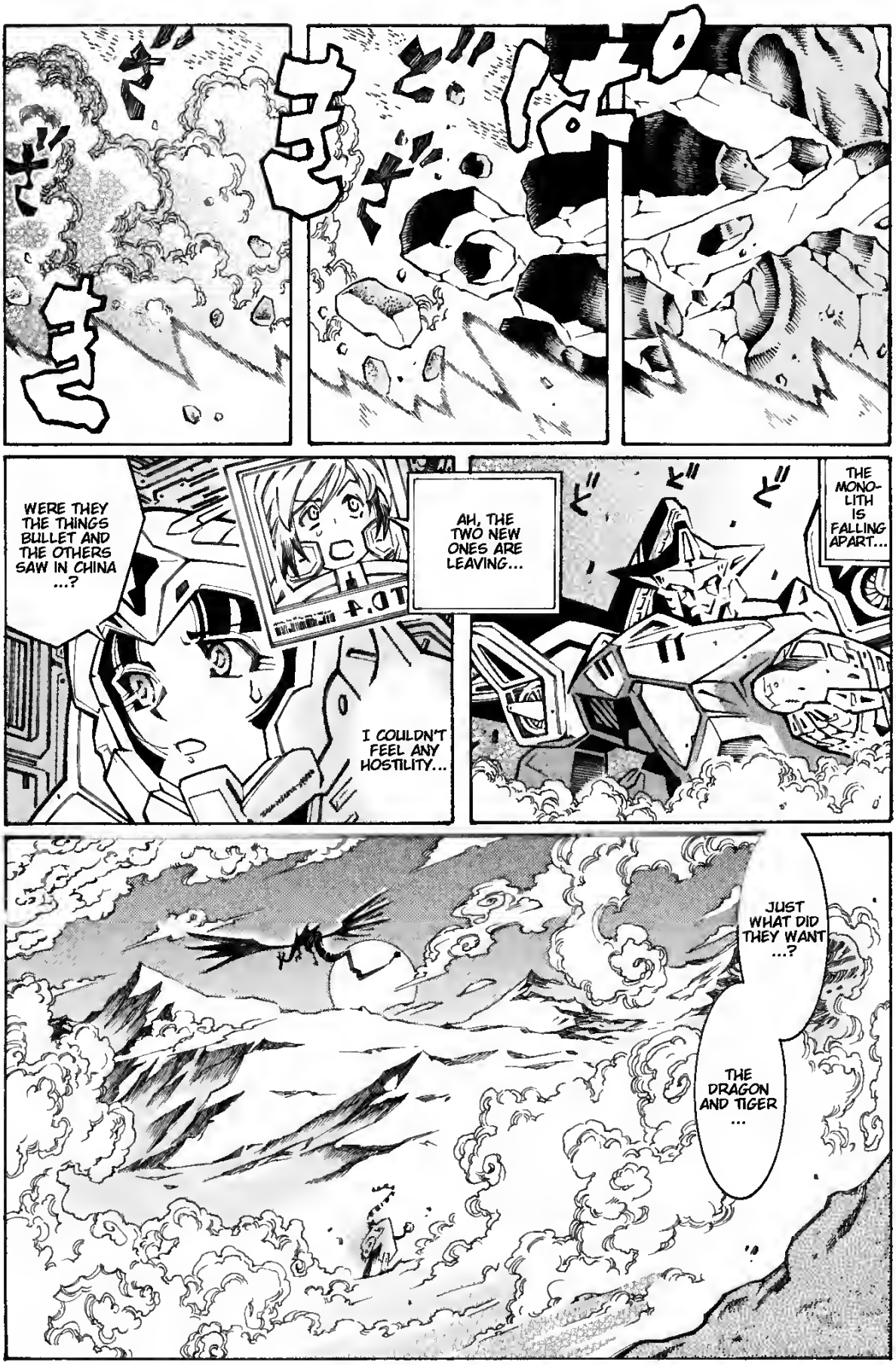

A DRA-GON?
A...


WERE THEY THE THINGS BULLET AND THE OTHERS SAW IN CHINA ...?
AH, THE TWO NEW ONES ARE LEAVING...
I COULDN'T FEEL ANY HOSTILITY...
THE MONO-LITH IS FALLING APART...
JUST WHAT DID THEY WANT ...?
THE DRAGON AND TIGER ...

#07 END